

HELLO AGAIN!



Many thanks to 57 friends who are now supporting this publication with their dollars and good cheer and encouragement. The money should hold out for 3 or more newsletters. The highlight of this issue will be an article by me (highlight he says???) concerning my first year of trading.

Please forgive the ink spots that appear regularly on the paper. What can you expect from a used mimeograph machine. Hope you all had a fine Christmas and New Years. Many thanks to Lew C, Bill D, Rex B, Bob V, Ken G, Ed C, Don Br. Warren A, Chuch S, Bob W, Chris L, Vern E, Dick H, Hal B, Don R, Pat M, Cam D, Raleigh B, Don Bo. for their nice Christmas cards. Many of them had pictures of them and their families.

Please continue to send information about yourself and short articles about radio. If you wish to send in long articles (2 or more pages) you could do two things: type the article on a stencil and mail it to me or duplicate the article yourself and send me 100 copies. I will then include it with the next newsletter. This was suggested to me by Steve Hofer and would save a little typing on my part. If the articles are less than a page as those sent in by Bill Blalock and others I would prefer to type them myself in order to include several on a page.

If any of you have to pay postage due let me know. I have a small weighing machine but I could slip up some times. Well, it finally happened: I sent my master to someone instead of the tape I dubbed. This does lead to phone conversations however. I had a nice talk with Dave Swift who promptly returned the tape. I've received masters by mistake before but this is the first time I sent one out.

I am now able to speed up slow programs but there does occur a slight waver in the music. When any of you order programs and you wish me to speed up programs I list as slow, let me know. I will include more Suspense dates with each newsletter. Let me know if you want my list of over 200 programs with dates.

Rex Bills mentions that there is a O'Henry Pla house called The Comming out of Maggi. I thought this was a misprint of The Coming of the Magi.

DEATHS: Fred Yeates; Nov 7; age 79. Mr. Yeates was the originator of the Richfield Reporter, broadcast during the early days of radio.

Charles . Smith: Dec. 16; 64; Mr. Smith was co-editor of Jazzmen, first published in 1939.

Mimi Benzell; Dec. 23; 47; Besides being a great singer, Miss Benzell conducted a popular interview program on WNBC.

Charles Ruggles; Dec. 23; 84;

BOOKS: Remember Radio by Ron Lackmann. If you know the publisher please let me know.

Cavalcade of Broadcasting; Benjamin Company, 485 Madison Ave, New York, NY 10022. Soft Cover edition is \$4.95. Mentioned by Steve Hofer

NEWS: Radio station KXL in Portland, Oregon was fined \$1000 by the FCC for carrying a program called Old Time Radio without logging it as commercial matter. 6 of the 15 minutes of the program was well-defined advertising.

Variety; Dec. 23, 1970

QUIZ: Winner of the November quiz was Bruce Ruggles with 5 correct answers. A reel of tape will be out to him. There has been little response to the December quiz. Get those answers in a free reel of programs to the winner.

ANSWERS: 1. Proudfoot (I thought, having heard it on one of the gun-smoke programs but every response was Goode); 2. 1870's; 3. Front Street; 4. 9/10/55; 5. Carlton, 1875, Hey Boy; 6. Cola; 7. Johnny

Madero, Pier 23; 8. Mammy; 9. Gillis and Egbert; also Waldo Binny and Otto Schmedlapp; 10. Acme Plaza

JANUARY QUIZ

1. In the Dennis Day Show: what was the theme; the store in which he worked; girl friend's name; town he lived in.
2. What was the name of the theme of Fibber McGee and Molly
3. What was the theme of the Landt Trio
4. What program took place in Cactus Junction
5. What program had for its theme "Drink to me Only with Thine Eyes"
6. What program had for its theme "Long Long Trail Awinding"
7. What town did Henry Aldrich live in and what was his middle initial
8. What program was designed to "Free you from the 4 walls of today"
9. What program had for its theme "Take me out to the Ballgame"
10. In Those Websters what was the street number, street, and city.

HIGH COST OF TRADING DEPT: Dave Swift was charged a 1945 Shadow comic and a Buck Rogers BLB (Cocomalt ed.) for a 15 minute tape. Dick Hayes was once offered a 1 hour Kate Smith show for \$75. Can you Top This?

SUSPENSE: More dates: Sisters; also 3/30/58. 3 Skeleton Key (Quay); given as 10/18/58 but this was a Sat. and program in 1958 were on Sundays??? Help.. Butchers Wife; 2/9/50

HERE AND THERE: New friends: Jim Bannister, 17015 Glacier Ridge Rd, RR2, Fort Wayne Ind. 46825. Mike Polacek, 2207 Washington Ave, Huntington, W Va, 25704. Mike has over 2500 listings. John Dunning, 3015 East 14th Ave, Denver, Colo 80206. John has about 1000 programs. Charles Hoefler, 21 Charlemont Ct, North Chelmsford, Mass 01863. Charles is currently dubbing "Heartbeat Theater" which is being broadcast in his area. R.C. Roos, 259 Walker Ave, Clarendon Hills, Ill 60514. Rally is a relative newcomer and is looking for Ben Bernie, Showboat, Am. Album of Familiar Music, Manhattan Merryground, A&P Gypsies (I am still looking for that one). Al Vesik, 733 San Lucas Ave, Stockton, Cal 95207. Al is particularly interested in Bing Crosby. Someone told Al he had every Crosby program from the first Kraft to the last GE. Stuart Weiss, 430 Ocean Parkway, Brooklyn, NY 11218.

Old friends: Don Brush and I were on a 50 minute interview program about old radio on WINF in Manchester, Conn. I may have some response to that program before this goes to press.

Wil Dufour will be teaching a course in old time radio in the Adult Ed. Program in the Holliston, Mass. schools. Wil would appreciate any hints from anyone doing courses know. (W D, 47 Lawrence St, Milford, Mass 01757)

Jim Harmon, Box 38612, Hollywood, Cal 90038. Got a nice note from Jim who also mentions another collector who started about the same time as he and Ed Caorcoran. His name is Ed Aprill who is now publishing the reprint booklets of Buck Rogers and other comic strips.

Dick Hayes has a tape made in 1949 that is still in excellent condition. Anyone earlier than that.

Steve Hofer is now station manager for the educational FM radio station in Kingsville, Texas. He is almost entirely teaching broadcast courses. Steve broadcast old time radio programs without commercials and has run into no trouble.

Fred Province will now trade radio tapes for comic books, big-little books, pulp magazines, premiums, and related material. (F P, 1647 Enfield St, Spring Valley, Cal 92077)

LATE MAIL AND INFORMATION; I had very nice phone conversations with Ralph Miller and Bruce Ruggles. Bruce called from Canada. Ray Henderson, composer, died on Jan. 2nd at the age of 74. He was part of the song team of DeSylva, Brown, and Henderson. Be careful in broadcasting any old programs with cigarette commercials. On Dec. 19, May Singhi Breen, widow of Peter DeRose died. She and Peter DeRose, composer, had a program called Breen and DeRose, a music and talk show. Please send me supplements whenever you can. My trading has slowed to a standstill. If you haven't received my special want lists and you would like them, please let me know. I have several programs which, because of requests of the traders I got them from, are not for general trade. I would be willing to trade them for certain items on my want list. If I do trade them it is with the understanding that they not be sold or listed. If you have uncirculated material or items I may not know about I will send you a list of the programs.

SUSPENSE: Bernard Herman was the composer of the theme of Suspense. His wife was Lucille Fletcher, author of Sorry Wrong Number. William Spier coined the phrase "a tale well calculated to keep you in Suspense." Suspense was on the air in the summer of 1940 on a program called forecast in which several programs were "tried" once. Actors on Suspense often played roles not associated with them in the movies or radio. William Spier's wife is June Havoc. They live in Weston, Connecticut. MORE DATES: Weekend Special; Death; 5/24/54: Murder Strikes Three Times; 2/16/50; Night Man; also 7/26/59. CORRECT SPELLING: William N. Robson.

BOOK: Ladies and Gentlemen-Easy Aces by Goodman Ace, recently interviewed by Richard Lamparsky. It is published by Doubleday.

HERE AND THERE: Bob Ellsworth, 279 Washington Ave, Kingston, NY 12401. Bob has been collecting for about 3 years and has about 300 shows. He is interested in Fred Allen, Sgt. Preston, Straight Arrow, Tom Mix, and Bobby Benson.....Roger Kelting, 196 Green Manor Rd, Enfield, Conn 06082. Roger has just started collecting.....Fred Kuhn, 25 Karen Dr, Tonawanda, NY 14150. Fred has been collecting for about 4 years and has about 400 shows. He teaches school and has interested many of his students in the programs.....R.C. Roos (mentioned earlier) is married with 1 boy, aged 12. His first name is Roland (Rolly) and his hobbies are pop art and all sports. He is very active in Little League baseball in the Chicago area. He started collecting this year.

Don Brush has some Sony heads for early models which he is willing to sell at a reasonable price. The serial numbers (stock numbers) are PP 15 29025; 20025; PP 15 2102N; 345 Ensk??? (D B, 19 Greenhouse Blvd, West Hartford, Conn 06110.....Ralph Miller, Box 160, Allston, Mass 02134. Ralph has several hundred programs.

On reverse side is a list of people I have corresponded with that are not mentioned for the first time in this newsletter and are not mentioned in Radio Dial (as of the Fall issue). This is mainly for the benefit of people who have just started receiving this newsletter.

Feel free to spread this information around. Until next time...

Hang by your thumbs
write if you get work

Jay A Hickerson

Jay Hickerson
6 Koczak Court
North Haven, Connecticut 06473
(203) 239-5251

LIST OF TRADERS

Helen Connolly, Box 964, Brooklyn, NY 11202
 Bruce Dunn, 919 Hays Park, Kalamazoo, Mich 49001
 Hal Brodsky, 218 Orangeview Lane, Lakeland, Fla 33803
 Fred Dickey, 1049 Day Rd, Schenectady, NY 12303
 Bill Hillman, 818 26th St, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada
 Robert Joseph, 1250 La Baron Circle, Webster, NY 14580
 Robert Koch, 2158 North French Rd, Getzville, NY 14068
 Eric Klarer, 3132 Buford Highway #A-2, Atlanta, Ga 30329
 Dee Magers, 3302 Edgewood Rd, Columbia, Ga 31907
 Don Pellow, 705 East Changler, Evansville, Ind 47713
 Roger Paulson, Box 4, Needham, Mass 02192
 Mike Polacek, 2207 Washington Ave, Huntington, " Va 25704
 Don Racette, 5131 Park Ave, Hadley, NY 12835
 Bruce Ruggles, Box 3000, North Bay, Ontario, Canada
 David Swift, 30 Dartmouth St, Halifax, Mass 02338
 Harry Sova, 1268 Eigenmann Center, Ind Univ, Bloomington, Ind 47401
 Ronnie Tilton, 602 Hegeman Ave, Brooklyn, Ny 11207
 Bob Welsh, 10821 Bond Rd, Harrison, Ohio 45030
 Richard Pawlak, 294 Farifield Ave, Kenmore, NY 14223

Write Charles Ingersoll, RUSA, Box 190, Cloquet, Minn 55720
 for extensive list of traders. Enclose 25¢.

RECOLLECTIONS AT ONE YEAR

In early January, 1970, Sal Trapani gave me about 100 radio programs. A year later in early January, 1971, I received my 3000th listing and have written, traded, and corresponded with over 100 people all over the country and Canada. How and why did this happen? I'd like to reminisce for a minute and share with you how one collector of radio programs got started.

I am a professional piano player and have always been interested in the music of television programs, movies, and radio. My interest in radio was spurred on by the commercial LP's that came on the market (Longine, Columbia, Themes Like Old Times, etc.). I also bought Radio's Golden Age by Buxton and Owen. Late in 1969 at a Xmas party I was playing some radio themes when a man came up and told me of a friend, Sal Trapani, who collected radio programs. I called Sal who agreed to tape his collection of about 100 programs just for the blank tape. He also was a member of the Nostalgia Book Club and gave me all the Reminiscing columns that he had. From this I got many names.

I got to know Jack Miller and Mel Shlank, both local traders. From the Nostalgia Book Club I heard of George Blacker from whom I got many discs that were uncirculated at that time. I also met and traded with Ed Corcoran, Don Brush, John Knipe, and Ernie Hack, all Connecticut residents.

On Jan. 5 I sent my first letter out, on Jan 27 I sent out my first list, on Feb 4 I sent out my first tape, and on Feb 6 I received my first tapes by mail from David Swift and Dick Ayers.

I bought a recorder to use with an old Sears recorder. The dubs left a lot to be desired. I knew nothing about listing, dubbing, or quality. My first trading friends were very patient and very helpful. I soon got another recorder, using the Sears machine just to fast rewind to get a reel in the right direction to dub.

I tried to be very prompt in answering letters, requesting programs, and dubbing. I constantly put out supplements. Charlie Ingersoll of the RHSA was helpful. I also tend to be organized. This with a little more time than some helped me accumulate programs faster than most traders. I now have over 370 reels, over 300 Suspense, 90 Jack Benny, 80 different big bands, and all X-1 and Dimension X except for 6 programs.

My trading has now slowed down to a crawl because I am just looking for certain programs and they are becoming harder to find. During the past year I have had (I hope) a good relationship with all my trading friends. Only 1 tape was ever lost in the mail. I have had good luck with my 2 recorders (only use 2).

Certain friends were very helpful in my early days of trading. These were Dick Ayers (I traded over 160 hours with Dick. Dick's promptness helped build my collection up quickly), Vern Eldridge, Bill H Ilman, Bill Hennessey, Don Koehnemann, Dave Swift, Gerry Kramer (Never traded with Gerry but he gave me several leads including Dick Ayers), Peter Bayer, Don Doates, Bill Blalock, Roger Hill, Dee Magers, Pat McCoy, Fred Province, Don Racette, Bruce Ruggles, Chuck Schaden, Bob Vito, Harry Sova. These friends plus many others have been mentioned in my newsletters.

My supplements and newsletters developed gradually. My first supplement in Feb. had 40 listings and my first correction section. My second supplement in March had a few sentences about my new additions (110) and my first discs. The 3rd supplement in April had a page of Comments and Tidbits, mentioning a few people who already had helped me, a little information about myself, and how I graded my programs (about 280 listings). In May my Comment and Tidbit section

was a page and a half (240 listings). My June supplement had 480 listings (my largest) and Hello Again (in honor of Jack Benny) made its appearance. Its purpose was and still is to exchange ideas and to "tell you all about you all." My August issue had a cover drawn by Sal Trapani and was done on a used mimeograph machine, ink spots and all. At that point I started asking for \$1.00 from each person to help cover costs because of the frequency of issuing it. I still hope to print a newsletter each month.

I received short articles and Radio Guides from several collectors. The publication got a welcomed and much appreciated boost by Charlie Ingersohl in his Fall issue of Radio Dial.

One year has now past. I know that my life is richer, both because of the radio programs themselves and because of the many friends I correspond with. I hope I am able to continue trading for many years to come. Also, as long as news comes in, Hello Again will go out.

Jay Hickerson

THIS IS THE LIFE-FINAL PART

Jack Benny first appeared on radio on Ed Sullivan's program in February, 1932. At the time he was starring in Earl Carroll "Vanities." Today his most treasured keepsake is this first radio script which began: "Ladies and Gentlemen, this is Jack Benny talking. There will be a slight pause while you say, 'Who cares?' " In April he started his own series of programs which lasted until the late '50's. The almost incredible way he shot to the top after that will always be regarded as a radio phenomenon. Still more phenomenal to the wise men of Radio Row is the tenacity with which he has clung to the top rung of the ladder ever since. Because at first he only had a small audience behind a big glass sheet and couldn't hear them laugh, he had the glass pane removed.

Why is Jack Benny a success? First he discovered long ago that we would rather make fun of him than hear him make fun of others. Second Jack keeps his programs light and limber by rehearsing the script only once. Unexpected lines are constantly added. Bill Morrow and Eddie Beloin were his writers during his early years that were responsible for turning out these scripts. If the scripts make Jack laugh they probably will be successful. Jack is the best listener to jokes. George Burns makes Jack laugh at the least little thing. At heart Jack Benny is very shy, often avoiding welcoming crowds and speaking engagements. Bertha Brainerd of NBC call Jack "a simple, completely unspoiled, rather naive person. To me the most surprising thing about him is how sensitive he is."

Radio Guide, July 10 1937

Written by Jack Jamison

Courtesy of Raleigh Barker